

State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT Governor

SPENCER J. COX Lieutenant Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

Amanda Smith
Executive Director

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY Walter L. Baker, P.E. Director M/035/0002
No task:
Lestie 14 thelead
RECEIVED E-Mail
JUL 2 2 2014

Div. of Oil, Gas & Mining

JUL 22 2014

Mr. Chris Kaiser Manager - Environment Rio Tinto Kennecott 4700 Daybreak Parkway South Jordan, Utah 84095

Subject: July 10, 2014 South Waste Rock Reclamation Project Presentation

Dear Mr. Kaiser:

Rio Tinto Kennecott Copper (RTKC) personnel made a presentation to Division of Water Quality (DWQ) personnel on July 10, 2014. The subject of the presentation was a construction project described as the first phase of reclamation of the south waste rock dumps.

The scope of the project includes bringing in waste rock from ongoing mining activities and disposing of it below the toe of the existing south waste rock dumps. When completed, this expansion will result in a lower slope angle of the south waste rock dumps with the goal of increasing stability, reducing erosion during large storm events, and facilitating re-vegetation upon dump closure. The project will include, among other things, breaching of a cut-off wall in the Castro drainage, partial burial of a CERCLA repository constructed to contain waste rock with a high lead concentration, as well as construction of various run-off control features such as ditches and storm water basins.

In the meeting RTKC personnel indicated this project does not affect conditions under the applicable ground water discharge permit, therefore a formal written submission presenting the project for regulatory review and approval will not be provided.

The DWQ would like to advise RTKC that the south waste rock piles are regulated under Ground Water Discharge Permit UGW350010 (refer to Part I.D.2). Pipelines, conveyance ditches and associated structures used to convey flows of meteoric and storm water that emanate from the waste rock piles are specifically listed under Part I.D.3 of the permit. Additionally, RTKC has a duty to provide any information the Director requests to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating the permit; or to determine compliance with the permit (Part IV. E).

Mr. Chris Kaiser Page 2

Based on this, the DWQ concludes that several activities proposed for the first phase of the project will require review prior to approval. It appears this project is similar in scope to the East Waste Rock Extension Project. As a result, DWQ anticipates a similar set of documents will be submitted for review prior to initiating construction activities. Failure to do so could result in a violation of permit conditions.

Please contact Dan Hall (801) 536-4356 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Walter L. Baker, P.E.

Director

WLB:BH:pe

cc: Douglas Bacon, DERR (via e-mail)

Leslie Heppler, DOGM (via e-mail)

Paul Baker, DOGM (via e-mail)

Mike Bradley, DOGM (via e-mail)

Kerri Fiedler, EPA Region 8 (via e-mail)

Thiess Lindsay, Rio Tinto Kennecott Copper (via e-mail)

Brian Vinton, Rio Tinto Kennecott Copper (via-e-mail)

Salt Lake County Health Department (via e-mail)

Herriman City

DWQ-2014-009361